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sary, as the data are presented, for each store to report only sales and rent, while for the single year, 1914, it was necessary that sales, rent, and total expense be reported. The use of a different number of stores in the various presentations is typical of the method followed throughout the study. The reason for doing this is referred to by the reviewer in another connection and should have been evident to him in this case.

In brief, the reviewer, while describing in a general way the contents of the Bureau's study, forgets the purpose of the study and takes little note of the methods which have been used to realize it. Because of the fact that statistical data are always susceptible to misuse, that they may appear to be exact and at the same time be full of error, and that many people are credulous to a fault in the use of them, the Bureau took special precaution to guard against its findings being improperly used. If its efforts in this respect have been almost completely overlooked by the reviewer, it can only hope that such will not be the case on the part of others into whose hands the volumes come.

HORACE SECRIST

The Bureau of Business Research,  
Northwestern University, School of Commerce

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### A REPLY

By H. K. HERWITZ

On the essential points Professor Secrist and I do not differ. The arithmetic mean is easy to find and easy to compute. Modes and medians are not. As Professor Secrist knows, however, and as the illustrations that I take from his study clearly show, the arithmetic mean, although it is easy to calculate or even because it is easy to compute, frequently does not show what it professes to show. This is my point. And it still seems to me true that matters of this kind should not be left to the scrutiny of ordinary readers of books of this sort, who usually are so little practiced in the art of statistics.

With regard to Professor Secrist's second point that the "detailed" tables would have yielded different results than the "total" tables, I can only add that an examination of the "detailed" tables does not confirm Professor Secrist's statement.

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### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

**Vital Statistics Courses.** The following information on vital statistics education in schools of public health was collected by the Committee on Vital Statistics of the American Statistical Association:

University of Chicago. Department of Hygiene and Bacteriology

Vital statistics and epidemiology. Professor E. O. Jordan.

Harvard University. School of Public Health.

An elementary course of lectures and laboratory work designed to familiarize the student with descriptive vital statistics, with graphic representation and with the basic theory of probabilities and correlation. Edwin B. Wilson, Professor of Vital Statistics.

Johns Hopkins University. School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Several courses designed to meet the needs of persons training for public health work and for students intending to specialize in statistical work as teachers, investigators, or administrators.

(a) Introduction to Vital Statistics

Methods of collecting, tabulating, adjusting and interpreting statistical data regarding human life, and review of chief statistical results of the past in this field.

(b) Laboratory Work in Vital Statistics

(c) Advanced Statistical Theory

Methods of statistical analysis. Curve fitting. Graduation of data. Life tables. Correlation.

(d) Colloquium on Practical Vital Statistics

Training in critical application of vital statistics to specific problems in biology, medicine and hygiene.

(e) Statistical Measurement of Public Health Activities

(f) Investigations in Biometry and Vital Statistics

(g) Special Investigations

Research on tuberculosis, hospital problems, etc.

Courses under the direction of Professor Raymond Pearl, assisted by a staff of seven associates.

University of Michigan. Graduate School

Vital Statistics (one hour, second semester); elementary methods in statistics; mathematical theory of statistics (a—introductory, b—advanced). Professor James W. Glover, and others.

Ohio State University. Graduate School

Demography. Open to students majoring in public health. Covers vital, social and sanitary statistics.

Social statistics. Application of statistical methods to social research. Miss Mark.

University of Pennsylvania. School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Social and vital statistics. Statistical principles connected with collection, presentation and interpretation of numerical facts, graphic methods, statistical control of public health work. Professor Robert Riegel.

Yale University. Department of Public Health.

Principles of vital statistics. Descriptive and analytic aspects of vital statistics. Life tables. Graphics. Assigned statistical problems in public health. Dr. L. I. Dublin.

**New Employment Statistics.** Arrangements have been made for securing monthly reports from a large list of manufacturing establishments in Massachusetts, showing numbers employed and total earnings, together with certain incidental information bearing on these two questions. The first canvass was undertaken during the month of September, 1922, and the results were highly satisfactory. In this work the State Department will coöperate with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics and thereby avoid duplication in the collection of reports of this character. The information will be obtained in the first instance by this department, and copies of the reports will be furnished to the Federal Bureau for its use, in connection with similar data for other states, in compiling a report for the entire country. These monthly reports when compiled should serve as an important industrial barometer, showing the trend of employment and earnings of employees in the manufacturing industries.

**Harvard Business Review.** The Graduate School of Business Administration of Harvard University announces the publication, beginning in October, of the *Harvard Business Review*, a quarterly devoted to the theory and practice of business. The first number includes articles by Dean W. B. Donham, O. M. W. Sprague, Arthur S. Dewing, and other members of the faculty of the Graduate School, with contributions by business men such as George O. May, Frederic H. Curtis, and Julius Klein. The leading articles of the *Review* will be edited by an editorial committee of the faculty; the departments of business cases and book reviews will be in charge of a student editorial board.

**Publications of the International Congresses of Eugenics.** The First International Congress of Eugenics was held in London in 1912. The papers presented before this Congress are reported in two volumes entitled "Problems in Eugenics." There is also a supplementary pamphlet entitled "Catalog of Exhibits." American libraries can secure these reports directly from the Secretary-Treasurer of the Eugenics Research Association, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.

The papers and reports of the Second International Congress of Eugenics, which was held at the American Museum of Natural History in New York in 1921, are now being printed by the Williams & Wilkins Company, Mount Royal & Guilford Avenues, Baltimore, Md. Volume I will be entitled "Eugenics, Genetics and The Family"; Volume II, "Eugenics in Race and State." Orders may be placed directly with the Williams & Wilkins Company for all publications of the Second Congress.

Besides these two volumes of scientific papers, there will be issued a supplementary pamphlet which will contain an account of the Congress, together with a Catalog of the Exhibits. Plans are in preparation for rebinding, under one cover, all accounts and descriptions of the exhibits.

The Pollak Foundation for Economic Research announces the publication of *The Making of Index Numbers: A Study of their Varieties, Tests, and Reliability*, by Professor Irving Fisher. This volume is a development of studies which were advocated and outlined by Professor Fisher at the meeting of the Statistical Association at Atlantic City, in December, 1920. Some of the preliminary findings were presented in the March, 1921, number of this JOURNAL. A special price will be made to members of the Association who send in advance orders.

The publication of Tables of  $\sqrt{1-r^2}$  and  $1-r^2$ , by John Rice Miner, for use in partial correlation and in trigonometry, is announced by the Johns Hopkins Press.

Tables for Applied Mathematics to Finance, Insurance, and Statistics, edited by Professor James W. Glover, are now ready for delivery by George Wahr, Publisher (Ann Arbor, Mich.). These tables contain compound interest functions and logarithms of compound interest functions; life insurance and disability insurance functions; probability and statistical functions; and seven place logarithms of numbers from 1 to 100,000.

**Annual Meeting of the American Statistical Association.** The opening session of the Annual Meeting, to be held at Chicago, December 27-29, will be a joint meeting with the American Economic Association, on Wednesday afternoon, December 27. The general topic will be "The Outlook for 1923." Experts will discuss the level of prices and the cost of living, the trends in interest rates and investment, and wages and regularity of employment. Both the Economic Association and the Sociological Society will join with us in an evening session to hear the presidential addresses of the three associations. On Thursday, December 28, our Association will hold three sessions. The morning topic will be "Population Facts and the Malthusian Law." In the afternoon a round table will discuss "Standards and Methods of Statistical Instruction and Training." At this session the proposed plan, described in more detail elsewhere in this issue, for a series of standard reference books on statistical methods and practice will be presented for consideration by the Association. In the evening the Hon. Herbert C. Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, will deliver an address. Mr. Hoover presides over the most important statistical activities of the federal Government and is now carrying forward an active program for closer coöperation between the government and private business. The Association is fortunate in securing his presence at this most representative gathering of statisticians and economists. On Friday morning, December 29, a session will be devoted to "Employment Statistics and Allied Topics." The Association has had an active committee at work on this problem during the year, in coöperation with other agencies concerned, and important contributions by experts may be expected.

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK,  
*Secretary*

Dr. Jacques Bertillon, who died at Paris on July 7 last, was one of the most eminent of the French demographers and was known as the father of International Nosologic Nomenclature. In 1893 he presented at the meeting of the International Statistical Institute, held at Chicago, a draft of a system devised by him and intended for international use as a standard for the statistical classification of causes of sickness and death. Such was the inception of what was known for awhile as the Bertillon Classification, but which by reason of its adoption by most of the countries of the civilized world has become the International List of Causes of Sickness and Death.

Prior to the adoption of the present system there was absolutely no international standard of nosological practice. Causes of death were classified by the several countries, and even by important political units within most countries, according to different systems. Obviously, the results were not comparable with each other. Dr. Bertillon's system of classification provided for the grouping under one title-heading of all causes of death reported in the same or in synonymous terms. He stipulated that by periodical revision his system was to be kept in conformity with the advancement of medical science. In consequence, there were held at Paris in 1900, 1909, and 1920 meetings of the Decennial Conference for the Revision of the International Nosologic Nomenclature. With each of these Conferences the number of countries participating has increased,

and as a result we have now in effect for the third decade a system which has given to the world comparable international mortality statistics.

It is of the utmost importance to the advancement of sanitary science that statistics of causes of death published by different offices be comparable with each other. There can be no doubt that Dr. Bertillon hastened by many years the uniformity of practice which resulted in the compilation of such statistics.

Dr. Jacques Bertillon was born in 1851 and was one of a distinguished family. He was the grandson of Dr. Achille Guillard, who was eminent both as a botanist and as a statistician. He was the son of Louis Alphonse Bertillon, a noted French statistician, and a brother of Alphonse Bertillon who invented the Bertillon System of Body Measurements for the use of criminal investigation bureaus. Dr. Bertillon served for twenty years as Secretary-General of the Commission for the Revision of the International Nosologic Nomenclature. For many years he was Director of the Paris Bureau of Statistics; he was a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor and an author of note. His works relate chiefly to the depopulation of France, the relation of marriage to longevity, and the effects of alcoholism on health and morals.

Dr. E. H. Downey, workmen's compensation insurance expert, was drowned at Avalon, N. J., July 9, 1922. During the past seven years Dr. Downey had been connected with the Department of Insurance of Pennsylvania, and he was widely known as a deep and thorough student of compensation insurance.

Dr. Downey was born in Iowa in 1879. He was graduated from Iowa State University, and later received his doctor's degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin. In connection with his university researches and his work with the Wisconsin Industrial Commission and the Insurance Department of Pennsylvania he published some very valuable monographs and scientific articles on accident compensation. Members of the American social science organizations will remember his very able address on workmen's compensation at the Annual Meetings in Pittsburgh last year. But Dr. Downey's greatest contribution was his untiring and intelligent activity in workmen's compensation administration. His untimely death is a very serious loss in the scientific development of legislation and administration in a field which yearly becomes increasingly complex.

Mr. Walter W. Stewart, Professor of Economics at Amherst College, has been appointed Director of the Division of Research and Analysis of the Federal Reserve Board. He takes the place of Dr. H. Parker Willis who recently resigned.

During the summer, prior to his acceptance of the position with the Federal Reserve Board, Dr. Stewart was engaged under the auspices of the Committee of the Plan of New York and Its Environs in the preparation of a preliminary plan and outline of economic portions of the investigations to be made in connection with the development of the proposed plan for Metropolitan New York.

Dr. W. A. Berridge, after two years as Instructor and Tutor in Economics at Harvard, has been appointed Assistant Professor of Economics at Brown. Dr.

Berridge has recently returned from England, where he has been collecting unpublished materials on the business cycle and on unemployment.

Dr. Rainard B. Robbins has returned to the University of Michigan as Assistant Professor of Mathematics after an absence of two years, during which time he was employed as Assistant Actuary in the New York Department of Insurance at Albany.

Mr. Arthur E. Albrecht, Instructor in Economics at the College of the City of New York, has been appointed to the position of economist in the New York City office of the State Department of Farms and Markets.

Mr. J. E. Vesely, formerly with the Wieboldt Company of Chicago, is now Statistician for the United States Gypsum Company.

Mr. Charles H. Wickens has been appointed Commonwealth Statistician of Australia to succeed G. H. Knibbs, C.M.G., who has become Director of the Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry. Mr. Wickens has been one of the senior officers of the Bureau of Census and Statistics since its organization in 1906.

Professor Umberto Ricci has resigned as Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the International Institute of Agriculture. The Institute's *Year Book of Agricultural Statistics* has been issued under the direction of Professor Ricci.

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#### MEMBERS ELECTED SINCE AUGUST

Boudo, Carolyn, State Health Department, Albany, N. Y.

Cherington, Paul T., J. Walter Thompson Co., 244 Madison Ave., New York City

Fach, Herbert T., Rockefeller Foundation, 61 Broadway, New York City

Goldstein, Maurice L., Statistical Bureau, Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., New York City

Hoover, Herbert C., Secretary of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

Klein, Henry J., Statistical Bureau, Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., New York City

Lincoln, Edmond E., Western Electric Co., 195 Broadway, New York City

Lister, W. E., Actuary, Royal Indemnity Co., New York City

Richardson, I. G., Atlas Portland Cement Co., New York City

Roorbach, George B., Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Schoenfeld, Wm. A., Marketing Research, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Seligman, Mrs. Eustace, 161 E. 79th St., New York City

Smith, James G., Dept. of Economics, Princeton University, Princeton, N. J.

Stark, M. P., Washburn Crosby Co., Chamber of Commerce, Minneapolis, Minn.

Sturgis, Arthur, Consulting Economist, 712 Southern Bldg., Washington, D. C.

Thomas, Dorothy, London School of Economics, London, England

Thompson, Warren S., Scripps Foundation, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

Wachsman, Charles, Statistical Bureau, Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., New York City

Wembridge, Harry A., Joseph & Feiss Co., Cleveland, Ohio

Wiesner, Dorothy, National Tuberculosis Association, New York City

Worsley, W. J., Statistical Dept., Edison Lamp Works, Harrison, N. J.